

August 24, 2021 – EMPIRE VILLAGE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

The meeting was called to order at the Empire Township Hall and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Davis at 7:00 p.m. Council members Bacon, Barr, Chase, Dye, Palmer and Rademacher were present. Clerk Smith, Treasurer Nelson, DPW Superintendent Friend and Zoning Administrator Grobbel were also present,

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA – None.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA - Motion by Dye, support by Bacon to approve the agenda. Upon a voice vote, all voted aye. **MOTION PASSED.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS – Terry Bacon commented on the POS ordinance exemptions.

CONSENT AGENDA – Motion by Dye, supported by Rademacher to approve minutes of Regular Meeting 7/27/21, Work Session 8/12/21 and approve Bills totaling \$8,856.97.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.

REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – Cash Balances by Fund from Treasurer agree with General Ledger. The Revenue & Expenditures by Fund and Checks & EFTs thru 7-31-21 were submitted. Palmer stated that she would prefer to receive the reports prior to the meeting for review. Smith explained the reports are informational, do not require approval and cannot be completed until all information is received and bank statements reconciled.

COMMUNICATIONS – Letter from John Collins (South Bar Lake Association) regarding POS ordinance was read by Chase. Palmer read a letter from Mary Sharry regarding purple loosestrife on South Bar Lake. Bacon asked if there was a process for submitting letters to the Council that everyone should be following. There was discussion of utilizing the Complaint form available on the website so that issues could be directed to the appropriate department or the Council. Barr commented that NPS had addressed loosestrife in the past. Grobbel explained that loosestrife is an invasive species and suggested a professional for the ongoing process for control. Bacon has a name and contact of such a company.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS – ZA Grobbel reviewed his written report. DPW Superintendent Friend reviewed his written report. Numerous compliments have been received on the sidewalk edging. Clerk Smith stated that all Beach Ambassadors but 2 have left for the season. It was suggested that a bonus be offered to provide coverage for the Labor Day weekend as it is within the budget. **Motion by Rademacher, support by Chase to approve time and ½ for the 2 remaining ambassadors to work the Labor Day weekend. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.**

COUNCIL MEMBER/COMMITTEE REPORTS – Barr will schedule a Streets Committee meeting for September at the garage. He asked that if anyone would like to add to the agenda, please let him know. March asked if sidewalks would be addressed and Barr said if all information can be located, they will do so.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE #137 – SEPTIC INSPECTION AT TIME OF SALE - There was discussion of Civil Infraction ordinance vs the Zoning Ordinance and who would enforce. **Motion by Bacon, support by Rademacher to direct the POS Septic Committee to meet with Dr. Grobbel as a Planner (paid as professional service) and review this ordinance, not to exceed 3 hours. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.**

Motion by Bacon, support by Palmer to table the ordinance. Upon a voice vote, MOTION PASSED.

Davis noted that the subcommittee is extended until December 31, 2021.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF GOLF CARTS ON VILLAGE STREETS - **Motion by Bacon, supported by Barr to approve Resolution #9 of 2021.** Bacon noted that the resolution includes specific restrictions included in the Michigan Vehicle Code and read them aloud. It was noted that those rules be posted and available at the office. **ROLL CALL: Ayes: All. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.** A copy will be sent to the Sheriff.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER PROCESS - **Motion by Bacon, support by Rademacher to approve the Community Volunteer Process, Project Submission Form, and Volunteer Activity Waiver. Upon a unanimous voice vote, MOTION PASSED.**

NEW BUSINESS

DPW ASSISTANT POSITION – **Motion by Barr, support by Rademacher to authorize the Personnel Committee to draw up a job description to be used advertised in local papers and online job postings. ROLL CALL: Ayes: All. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.**

PUBLIC COMMENT – Heather Caverly commented on the Golf Cart Resolution. She also commented about fence and odor issues with a neighbor.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENT – Palmer commented on items she would like to discuss at a work session. Dye and Chase would like to address the fence and odor issues. Davis stated the issues have been reviewed and are not zoning violations. Davis had previously offered to contact the attorney and she declined at that time.

Motion by Bacon, support by Dye to authorize Davis to contact the attorney regarding the issues raised by Heather Caverly. ROLL CALL: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. MOTION PASSED.

ADJOURNMENT at 8:08 p.m.

Derith Smith Empire Village Clerk

These minutes were approved at the September 28, 2021, Regular Council meeting.